

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully traverse and request reconsideration.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for notice that claims 2-16, 18-20 and 22-26 are allowed.

Remaining claim 21 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Levesque et al. in view of Malladi et al. and in further view of Fujii et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,835,083 (Perego). Claim 21 has been canceled without prejudice.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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